

## Message Text

PAGE 01 STATE 162950

12

ORIGIN EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 SS-15 INR-10 PRS-01 RSC-01 /067 R

66664

DRAFTED BY: EA/P:STAFF:PP/EB

APPROVED BY: EA/P:WMAGRUDER

----- 109960

R 162127Z AUG 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SAIGON

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

AMCONSUL BIEN HOA

AMCONSUL CAN THO

AMCONSUL DANANG

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMCONSUL NHA TRANG

USDEL JEC PARIS

USLO PEKING

USSAG NAKHON PHANOM

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

UNCLAS STATE 162950

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, XC, US

SUBJECT: AUGUST 16 EA PRESS SUMMARY

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 STATE 162950

INDOCHINA

1. NYT AND WP (UPI) CARRY YESTERDAY'S WH STATEMENT ON BOMBING  
HALT IN WHICH PRES. STATES AIR COMBAT ENDED AS DIRECTED BY

CONGRESS, BUT THAT HE HAS RESERVATIONS ABOUT WISOM OF LEGISLATION SINCE IT ELIMINATED IMPORTANT INCENTIVE FOR ENEMY TO NEGOTIATE, WEAKENED SEASIA SECURITY, ERODED PEACE STRUCTURE, AND RAISES DOUBTS ABOUT US STANDING BY ITS AGREEMENTS. HE ADDS THAT GKR HAS USED EXTRA TIME SINCE JUNE 30 TO STRENGTHEN ITSELF, AND WE STILL SUPPORT NEGOTIATED C-F FOR CAMBODIA. NVN IS WARNED IT WOULD MAKE DANGEROUS ERROR IN PURSUING COURSE OF AGGRESSION, AND PRES. SAYS HE WOULD WORK WITH CONGRESS TO TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION IF NVA MOUNTS OFFENSIVE.

2. MUCH PRESS COMMENTARY FOLLOWS WH RELEASE. SCHMIDT (CSM) REPORTS THAT 400 FIGHTER-BOMBERS AND 175 B-52S REMAIN ON CALL IN THAILAND, GUAM AND ON CARRIERS, AND NO IMMEDIATE PP REACTION TO BOMBING HALT. CORDRY (SUN) INTERPRETS WH STATEMENT AS HARSH CRITICISM OF CONGRESS AND SEES STALEMATE AT PRESENT IN CAMBODIA. BECKMAN (CHITRIB) EMPHASIZES STRONG WARNING GIVEN HANOI (ALSO CARTER IN NYDN AND TOTHO OF LAT IN PHINQ) AND SEES WATERGATE SCANDAL AS HAVING HAMPERED PRES.' ABILITY BOTH TO NEGOTIATE WITH ENEMY AND DEAL WITH CONGRESS ON BOMBING HALT. GWERTZMAN (NYT) CONSIDERS WH STATEMENT AS DENUNCIATION OF CONGRESS, AND OBSERVES THAT IN HIS LATER TV WATERGATE SPEECH PRES. AGAIN NOTED HIS CONCERN ABOUT POSSIBLE IMPACT OF BOMBING END DEMANDED BY CONGRESS; OTHER ADMIN OFFICIALS PAINT GLOOMY PICTURE OF IMMEDIATE INDOCHINA FUTURE. MARDER (WP) CITES BITTER LANGUAGE THAT ASSAILS CONGRESS FOR BOMBING HALT AND WARNS HANOI. REPORTS SOME CONGRESSMEN ARE UNCONVINCED THAT SHOOTING IS OVER FOR US AND MAY ATTEMPT RESTRICTIONS ON RECON OR OTHER FLIGHTS, AND SAYS WH STATEMENT COULD BE PRELUDE TO FIXING BLAME ON CONGRESS IF CAMBODIA FALLS.

3. CINCPAC ACKNOWLEDGES CAMBODIAN BOMBING END (NYT, UPI). LAST B-52 RETURNS TO GUAM (WP, UPI); LAST B-52 CREW NAMED (AP NYT, NYDN). SEVERAL CORRESPONDENTS DESCRIBE RETURN OF LAST COMBAT AIRCRAFT TO GUAM, U TAPAO AND KORAT AS BUSINESS-AS-USUAL WITH NO CHAMPAGNE OR CHEERING (LIPPMAN, WP; TREASTER, NYT; BROWNE, NYT). CHITRIB AND NYDN (AP) REPORT REPS. ABZUG AND ADABBO ON HAND AT U TAPAO TO GREET CREW OF LAST COMBAT AIRCRAFT. UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 STATE 162950

LAST AIRCRAFT OVER PP TRAILED WHITE SMOKE DESCRIBED BY KHMER AS "FLOWER IN SKY" (GREENWAY, WP). SEIDEN (SUN) SAYS FARMERS GLAD BOMBING OVER, BUT FANK SOLDIERS APPREHENSIVE.

4. GROUND FIGHTING DECREASES AROUND PP. GKR AND GVN EXPRESS CONFIDENCE FANK CAN REPEL ATTACKS WITHOUT US AIR POWER (PHINQ; NYT, UPI; GREENWAY, WP; CHITRIB). BROWNE (NYT) SAYS REASON FOR LULL OBSCURE, BUT MAY BE DUE TO RECENT HIGH KI CASUALTIES RESULTING FROM INTENSIVE BOMBING, AND THAT SOME GKR OFFICIALS NOW SAYING FANK HAD BECOME TOO RELIANT ON US AIR SUPPORT. BROWNE ALSO DESCRIBES WITHDRAWAL FROM SKOUN AS DISORDERLY WITH HEAVY EQUIPMENT LOSS.

5. KI CLAIM BOMBING HALT AS VICTORY (DURDIN, NYT; SUN).  
SIHANOUK DECLARES READINESS RETIRE FROM POLITICS IF KR TAKE OVER,  
BUT SAYS WOULD OPPOSE COALITION GOVT; ADDS THAT BOMBING HALT  
IS GREAT VICTORY, BUT NIXON IS STILL FAR FROM WILLING GIVE  
CAMBODIA PEACE (ISAACS, SUN; NCNA, REUTER; NYT, LONDON TIMES;  
CSM).

6. BECKER (WP) REPORTS WEALTHY KHMERS FLEE TO BANGKOK OR PARIS  
BUT LESS AFFLUENT GO TO BATTAMBANG WHERE ECONOMY THRIVING,  
FOOD AVAILABLE AND FIGHTING LOW. MCARTHUR (LAT) REPORTS THAT HAK'S  
TOP ECONOMIC ADVISOR, CHARLES COOPER, IS RETURNING SVN TO STUDY  
WORSENING ECONOMIC SITUATION. COOPER FORMERLY WITH RAND CORPORATION  
AND HAD EARLIER SERVED IN SAIGON AS AMEMBASSY ECONOMIC COUNSELOR.

7. HICKEY (NYT) DESCRIBES PLIGHT OF SVN MONTAGNARDS WHO ARE  
DWINDLING IN NUMBERS AND HAVE LOST TRADITIONAL LANDS AND WAY OF  
LIFE.

8. LAOTIAN TALKS DEADLOCKED, CLASHES BREAK OUT IN S. WHERE PL  
ATTACK RLG TROOPS. FIGHTING MAY BE TO PRESSURE NEGOTIATORS  
(NYT, UPI).

KOREA

9. CSM'S POND, IN TOKYO, SEES TWO QUESTIONS OUTSTANDING IN MYSTERY  
OF KIM DAE JUNG ABDUCTION: WHO ACTUALLY CARRIED IT OUT, AND WHY  
WAS HE NOT KILLED, AS KIDNAPPERS APPARENTLY OROGINALLY INTENDED.

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 STATE 162950

10. US AND ROKG OPEN THREE-DAY SEOUL MEETING TODAY TO DISCUSS NEW  
EXPORT QUOTAS FOR SK'S WOOL AND MAN-MADE TEXTILES TO US FOR OCT.  
1 - SEPT. 31 PERIOD NEXT YEAR (UPI, NYT).

11. ISRAELI MILITARY COMMAND'S CHARGE THAT 10 - 20 NK PILOTS  
ARE FLYING JET FIGHTERS FOR EGYPTIAN AIR FORCE IS WIDELY NOTED  
(UPI, NYDN; CSM, NYT, WP), AS IS DOS OFFICIALS' CONFIRMATION  
THAT MANY AS 30 NK PILOTS MAY BE AIDING CAIRO.

CHINA

12. BREZHNEV SAYS PRC TO BLAME FOR FAILURE, AFTER FOUR YEARS OF  
EFFORTS, TO NORMALIZE SINO-SOVIET RELATIONS; ADDS SOVIET STILL  
WILLING TO TRY. NEVERTHELESS, PARKS (SUN) OBSERVES, THERE WERE  
INDICATIONS IN MOSCOW YESTERDAY FROM SOVIET AND CHINESE SOURCES  
THAT TENTATIVE STEPS HAVE BEEN TAKEN TOWARD IMPROVEMENT OF RELATIONS,  
INCLUDING MOVE TO BEGIN SERIOUS TALKS ON RESOLVING BORDER DISPUTE.

13. JUSTICE DOUGLAS CROSSES INTO CHINA FOR THREE-WEEK TOUR  
(AP, NYDN).

JAPAN

14. JOC'S FISH REPORTS THAT JAPANESE INVESTORS SEEKING US HOLDINGS ARE SHOWING INTEREST ONLY IN THOSE OF HIGHEST CALIBRE, WHETHER INVESTMENT IS RACE HORSE, LOBSTER BOATS, ART TREASURES OR PRIME FARMLAND. MARGINAL TYPE HOLDINGS ARE NOT WANTED.

15. CULLISON (JOC), IN TOKYO, REPORTS THAT JAPANESE EXPORTS OF AUTOS TO US MARKET ARE CLIMBING RAPIDLY, DESPITE UPWARD REVALUATION OF YEN, UPWARD YEN FLOAT AND RESULTING INCREASE IN RETAIL PRICES TO US CUSTOMERS.

FRANCE'S S. PACIFIC A-TESTS

16. GOF AIR FORCE RESUMES WEATHER OBSERVATION FLIGHTS OVER PACIFIC TEST AREA IN APPARENT PRELUDE TO NEW EXPLOSIONS (UPI, NYDN).

COMMENT AND ANALYSIS

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 05 STATE 162950

17. NYT'S SCHANBERG, IN PP, CITES MILITARY EXPERTS AS AGREEING THAT US BOMBING WAS ONLY THING THAT KEPT GKR FROM FALLING, AND THAT IT SLOWED IMPETUS OF ENEMY OFFENSIVE AND PREVENTED KI FROM MASSING LARGE ENOUGH NUMBERS TO TAKE PP. IN SUM, SOURCES VI

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 10 MAY 1999  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 16 AUG 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973STATE162950  
**Document Source:** ADS  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** EA/P:STAFF:PP/EB  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** n/a  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1973/newtext/t19730869/abqcendh.tel  
**Line Count:** 189  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** ORIGIN EA  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 4  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** collinp0  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 31 JAN 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <31-Jan-2002 by elbezejf>; APPROVED <04-Feb-2002 by collinp0>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** AUGUST 16 EA PRESS SUMMARY  
**TAGS:** PFOR, XC, US  
**To:** SAIGON INFO BANGKOK  
BUDAPEST  
CANBERRA  
JAKARTA  
MANILA  
MOSCOW  
PHNOMPENH

SEOUL  
TAIPEI  
TOKYO  
VIENTIANE  
WARSAW  
WELLINGTON  
BIEN HOA  
CAN THO  
DANANG  
HONG KONG  
NHA TRANG  
JEC PARIS  
PEKING  
USSAG NAKHON PHANOM  
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI  
**Type:** TE

**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005